



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

VIOLA LIUZZO MURDER

PART 10 OF 14

FILE NUMBER : 44-28601

F B I

Date: 8/16/65

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via: AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-28601)
FROM: SAC, MOBILE (44-1245)(P)
RE: EUGENE THOMAS; ET AL;
VIOLA LIUZZO, Aka; ET AL - VICTIMS
CR - EL
(OO: MOBILE)

Re Birmingham airtel to Bureau dated 7/9/65.

On 8/13/65, ARTHUR GAMBLE, Circuit Solicitor, Greenville, Ala., advised that transcript of the trial of COLLIE LEROY WILKINS, wherein GARY THOMAS ROWE, JR. testified, is presently in the hands of the Department Of Justice in Washington, D.C., and specifically, Departmental Attorney ST. JOHN BARRETT.

GAMBLE stated that if it was necessary the court reporter could possibly have another transcript prepared; however, it would necessitate some charges being assessed.

For the information of the Bureau, the San Francisco Office requested that they be furnished a copy of the testimony of GARY THOMAS ROWE, JR., in order that he can review his previous testimony he gave in the May, 1965 WILKINS Trial for the forthcoming trial of Defendants WILKINS, THOMAS, and EATON.

(3) - Bureau
1 - Birmingham (Info) (44-3236)
1 - San Francisco (Info) (44-609)
2 - Mobile
RLF:jcs

(7)

At your pleasure
out of my office
REC-9

15 AUG 18 1965

LK 101

Approved:

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M

RJ

MO 44-1245

The Bureau is requested to contact Departmental Attorney ST. JOHN BARRETT, obtain copy of testimony of GARY THOMAS ROWE, JR., which testimony was recorded during the May, 1965 trial of COLLIE LEROY WILKINS, and forward same to San Francisco Division.

Information copies of this airtel are being furnished to San Francisco and Birmingham Divisions.

F B I

Date: 8/19/65

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-28601)
 FROM: SAC, TAMPA (44-313)
 EUGENE THOMAS, et al.;
 VIOLA LIUZZO, et al. - VICTIMS
 CR - EL

Re Tampa teletype 8/17/65.

Transmitted herewith for the Bureau and recipient offices are copies of the following news clippings which have appeared in the press in this division concerning the reported presence of GARY ROWE in Tampa:

"Tampa Tribune" 8/19/65
 "Tampa Times" 8/18/65
 "St. Petersburg Times" 8/18/65

ENCLOSURE

3 Bureau (enc.-3) (RM)
 1 SAC, San Francisco (personal attention) (44-609) (enc.-3) (RM)
 1 SAC, Birmingham (personal attention) (44-1236) (enc.-3) (RM)
 1 SAC, Mobile (personal attention) (44-1245) (RM) (enc.-3)
 1 SAC, Savannah (personal attention) (enc.-3) (RM)
 1 Tampa
 JFS:KH
 (S)

REC-9

EX 105

16 AUG 20 1965

Approved: 56 AUG 5 Sent _____ M. Per _____
 Special Agent in Charge
 156

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Klan Lawyer Says FBI 'Spy' Living It Up in Tampa

The attorney for the Alabama Ku Klux Klan and for Collie LeRoy Wilkins charged with the murder of a white civil rights worker, said yesterday in Birmingham that an FBI undercover agent who testified against Wilkins has been located in Tampa.

Joseph F. Santolana, agent in charge of the Tampa FBI office said: "I don't know anything about it."

Pressed for further information, Santolana persisted but simply didn't know anything about it.

The undercover agent, Gary Thomas Rowe, 31, testified at Wilkins' trial last May that he was in the car when Wilkins and two other men fired on and killed Mrs. Violet Liuzzo of Detroit.

Mrs. Liuzzo, a civil rights worker, was driving a car in Lowndes County, Ala., returning a Negro from a civil rights demonstration in Selma.

Rowe was a surprise witness in the trial of Wilkins which ended in a hung jury because two of the jurymen said they could not believe Rowe because he had said he had joined the Klan, taken Klan oaths of secrecy and was violating his oath by testifying at the trial.

A new trial for Wilkins is scheduled Sept. 27 in Haynesville, Ala.

Since the trial Rowe dropped out of sight.

Yesterday, Matt Murphy who defended Wilkins, said in Birmingham that Rowe had been located in Tampa — "living like a lord and roaming the sands, eating chicken and steaks — filet mignon."

Murphy also said six FBI agents were guarding Rowe round the clock and "costing the taxpayers \$180 a day."

Murphy said he has a suit against Rowe to be heard in a Jefferson County court Sept. 7 for the collection of back attorney fees.

Murphy did not explain how he received his information that Rowe was in Tampa.

Rowe testified he had been an undercover agent for the FBI for five years and had been paid by the government during that time, that his instructions were to infiltrate Klan and Communist groups.

It was pointed out by a federal employee yesterday that it would be a natural thing for the FBI to guard Rowe.

In the first place he is one of them and is a federal employee who might possibly be in danger of his life from members of the Klan.

Without Rowe's testimony the state of Alabama would not have as tight a case against Wilkins. Rowe was an eye-witness, riding in the car from which the shots were fired.

The FBI has been engaged in investigating civil rights violations for some time and the Justice Department, under which the bureau operates, is charged with enforcing civil rights laws under the 1963 Civil Rights Act.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

LB The Tampa Tribune
Tampa, Florida

Date: August 19, 1967

Edition:

Author:

Editor: James A. Glendin-

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: Tampa

Being Investigated

SECRET/SECURE

8/14/73



MRS. LIUZZO



ROWE



WILKINS



MURPHY

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Local FBI Head Mum on Talk Informer Here

Joseph F. Santoiana, special agent in charge of the FBI in Tampa, today said he "knew nothing" concerning reports FBI informer Gary Thomas Rowe was under heavy guard in Tampa.

Rowe originally had been accused, along with three other members of the Ku Klux Klan, with the slaying of a civil rights worker, Mrs. Viola Liuzzo, shortly after she took part in the March 25 Selma-Montgomery civil rights march.

Rowe testified against one of the accused men, klansman Collie Leroy Wilkins, and told the court Wilkins was the trigger man. The trial ended in a hung jury, and a new one is scheduled for Sept. 27.

The report Rowe is in Tampa came from klan attorney Matt H. Murphy, who said six FBI men were guarding him around the clock.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

4 The Tampa Times
Tampa, Fla.

Date: August 18, 1965

Edition:

Author:

Editor: Bennett DeLoach

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: Tampa

Being Investigated

ENCLOSURE

441

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Informer Rowe Said In Tampa

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (UPI) — Matt H. Murphy, attorney for the Ku Klux Klan, said yesterday FBI informer Gary Thomas Rowe, who testified against a Klansman on trial for the murder of a civil rights worker, is in Tampa, Fla., under heavy guard.

(Murphy said six FBI agents were guarding Rowe around the clock "costing the taxpayers \$180 a day."

J. F. Santolana, special agent in charge of the FBI in Tampa, told the St. Petersburg Times, "I don't know anything about it."

Murphy said his suit against Rowe to collect a lawyer's fee has been set in Jefferson County Court Sept. 7. Rowe originally was accused with three Ku Klux Klansmen in connection with the murder of Mrs. Viola Liuzzo shortly after she took part in the March 25 Selma-to-Montgomery civil rights march.

However, it turned out Rowe joined the Klan to inform the FBI, and charges against him were dropped. Rowe testified at the Hayneville murder trial of Klansman Collie Leroy Wilkins that Wilkins was the trigger-man.

The trial ended in a hung jury and a new trial was set for Sept. 27 in Hayneville. The two other accused Klansmen, Eugene Thomas and William Eaton, have yet to be tried. All three say they are innocent.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

93 St. Petersburg Times
St. Petersburg, Fla.

Dte: August 18, 1965

Edition:

Author:

Editor: Courtland Anderson

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: Tampa

 Being Investigated

EXPOSURE

472

8/25/65

1 - Mr. Hines

Airtel

To: SAC, Mobile (44-1245)
From: Director, FBI (44-28601)
EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL;
VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA, ET AL - VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS; ELECTION LAWS

Reurairtel 8/13/65.

Enclosed herewith is a copy of the transcript of
the trial of Collie Leroy Wilkins, Jr., at Hayneville,
Alabama, May 3, 1965.

Review this transcript and furnish those portions
pertinent to the testimony of Gary Thomas Rowe to San Francisco
pursuant to San Francisco's previous request. Mobile maintain
the balance of the transcript in your office for possible use
of Agents who may be called upon to testify at a future trial.

Enclosure

REC-57

1 - San Francisco (44-609)
1 - Birmingham (44-1236)

to AUG 26/ 1965

MAILED TO
AUG 25 1965

COMM-FBI

JWH/rat

(6)

NOTE: In response to the request of the San Francisco Office that
the informant be allowed to review his testimony in the previous
trial of Collie Leroy Wilkins for the murder of Mrs. Viola Liuzzo,
before he is called upon to testify at the retrial currently
scheduled for 9/27/65. A copy of the transcript was obtained from
Mr. St. John Barrett of the Civil Rights Division. Since Agents al
testified at the trial, Mobile will maintain the balance of the
transcript in order that Agents who testified at the former trial
may be able to review their testimony prior to testifying in a future
trial in order to refresh their memories. Gary Thomas Rowe is our
informant who has been relocated to San Francisco. Due to the death
of Defense Attorney Matt Murphy, the retrial now scheduled for
9/27/65 will likely be postponed as a new defense attorney has not
yet been named.

ENCLOSURE

MAIL PG. TELETYPE UNIT

175381 1965

8/2/65

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

This case concerns the murder of civil rights worker Viola Liuzzo near Selma, Alabama, 3/25/65. Matt Murphy was the defense attorney for three Klansmen, including Collie LeRoy Wilkins, who were charged with murdering Liuzzo. Matt Murphy was killed in an automobile accident near Tuscaloosa, Alabama, 8/20/65.

Art Hanes when mayor of Birmingham, was politically affiliated with Bull Cannon, former Police Commissioner of Birmingham and extreme segregationist.

CDC:pah

b

FBI BIRMGHAM

I HAVE TWO

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
CIVIL RIGHTS SECTION

AUG 24 1965

TELETYPE

FBI BIRMGHAM

329 PM CST

URGENT 8-24-65 JGA

TO DIRECTOR 44-1285

FROM BIRMINGHAM 44-1236 (P) 1P

EUGENE THOMAS; ETAL; VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA; ETAL - VICTIMS. CR, EL.

DURING BRIEF CONFERENCE HELD EIGHT FORTYFIVE A.M., INSTANT,
BETWEEN SA [REDACTED] BIRMINGHAM ATTORNEY ART HANES (FORMER b7c
FBI AGENT AND FORMER MAYOR OF BIRMINGHAM), AND USA MACON L. WEAVER
CONCERNING ANOTHER CASE, ART HANES WAS OVERHEARD TO MENTION TO USA
WEAVER THAT HE HAD BEEN APPROACHED TO DEFEND COLLIE LEROY WILKINS IN
HAYNEVILLE, ALABAMA, NOW THAT MATT MURPHY IS DEAD. HANES STATED HE
HAS GIVEN THIS MATTER A LOT OF CONSIDERATION AND BELIEVES THAT
WILKINS IS ENTITLED TO A DEFENSE IN THIS MATTER. HE STATED FURTHER
THAT HE HAD NOT AS YET DECIDED WHETHER HE WOULD DEFEND HIM AND HAS
NOT AS YET MADE ANY PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT TO THAT EFFECT. THE ABOVE
IS SUBMITTED FOR BUREAU'S INFORMATION.

AIRMAIL COPY TO MOBILE.

END AND HOLD

REC, 45 44-12361-44
MCS: 5X 107
FH, 1

AUG 24 1965

CORRECTION LINE 2 WORD-10 SHLD BE "MACON"
BY SEE 1003

FBI

Date: 8/28/65

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via

AIRTELAIRMAIL

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-28601)

FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1236) (P)

SUBJECT: EUGENE THOMAS; ET AL.

VIOLA GREGG LIUZZO, aka;

ET AL - VICTIMS

CR - EL

(OO: MOBILE)

Re Mobile airtel to Birmingham dated 8/12/65,
 captioned "COLLIE LEROY WILKINS; RM", BH 157-1159.

Enclosed for the Bureau are eight copies of a
 letterhead memorandum suitable for dissemination reflecting
 the feelings of ARTHUR GAMBLE, JR., Circuit Solicitor,
 Greenville, Alabama, regarding the revocation of WILKINS'
 federal probation.

Two copies of LHM are being furnished the Mobile
 Office. Copy of LHM is also being furnished the USA, Birmingham.

(3) - Bureau (Enc. 8) **ENCLOSURE**, REC 45 403 0961-448
 2 - Mobile (Enc. 2) (44-1245)
 2 - Birmingham
 (1 - 44-1236)
 (1 - 157-1159)

2 AUG 31 1965 23 11,1

NPS:hss

(7)

C C WCR

5 SEP 7 1965
SAC Agent in Charge

Sent

M Per



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

1400 - 2121 Building
Birmingham, Alabama
August 28, 1965

RE: EUGENE THOMAS;
WILLIAM ORVILLE EATON;
COLLIE LEROY WILKINS, JR.
VIOLA GREGG LIUZZO - VICTIM
LEROY JEROME MOTEN - VICTIM.

Mr. Arthur Gamble, Jr., Circuit Solicitor, Greenville, Alabama, who was the prosecuting attorney in the trial of Collie Leroy Wilkins, Jr. at Hayneville, Alabama, advised that he had discussed the matter concerning the revocation of Wilkins' probation with Assistant U. S. Attorney R. Macey Taylor while in Birmingham, Alabama, during the Alabama Bar Convention in July 1965. He stated it had been agreed that any federal action against Wilkins to revoke his probation at this time would possibly jeopardize any chance of a conviction in Lowndes County, Alabama.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

ENCLOSURE

44-2411-478

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach ✓

DATE: 8-24-65

FROM : M. A. Jones ✓

SUBJECT: ARTHUR J. HANES
FORMER FBI AGENT
FORMER MAYOR OF BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

Tolson ✓
Belmont ✓
Mohr ✓
Turlock ✓
Casper ✓
Callahan ✓
Conrad ✓
FBI ✓
Gale ✓
Hagan ✓
Sullivan ✓
Tavel ✓
Trotter ✓
Tele. Room ✓
Holmes ✓
Gandy ✓

The United Press International under dateline of August 22nd at Birmingham, Alabama, reported that the captioned was one of the pallbearers at the funeral of Matt H. Murphy, Jr., the Ku Klux Klan attorney who defended the three Klansmen accused of killing Mrs. Liuzzo on March 25, 1965.

The article reported that former Birmingham mayor Art Hanes was "near tears throughout the ceremony." It also speculated that Hanes may replace Murphy as Klan attorney and as such would defend the three Klansmen accused of murdering Mrs. Liuzzo at their new trial scheduled for September 27th.

[REDACTED]

b7c

[REDACTED]

b7c

REC-66 447-117-6147

RECOMMENDATION:

EX 105

170 SEP 7 1965

CT 100-1111

AMIAI

07-1725

b7c

Mailing List
Letter 9-11
Change Noted

1 - Mr. Mohr
JWO 'B:gms (6)

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Callahan
1 - Mr. Sullivan

b7C
FBI

Recd. J.W.

F B I

Date: 8/26/65

Transmit the Following In _____

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-28601)
FROM: SAC, MOBILE (44-1245)(P)
SUBJECT: EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL;
VIOLA LIUZZO, Aka, ET AL, VICTIMS
CR; EL

DJW/D
ReBuairtel 8/25/65.

The transcript of the trial of COLLIE LEROY WILKINS,
JR. at Hayneville, Ala., 5/3/65 as mentioned in reairtel note
received by Mobile. Please forward.

③ - Bureau
2 - Mobile
DWH-pr
(5)

REC-21

10 AUG 28 1965

86 SEP 8 1965

Approved:

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

M Per

BYTE

FBI MOBILE

10:25 AM CST URGENT 9/21/65 LLO

TO: DIRECTOR (44-28601), BIRMINGHAM AND SAN FRANCISCO
FROM: MOBILE (44-1245) 2P

EUGENE THOMAS, ETAL. VIOLA LIUZZO, ETAL - VICTIMS. CR, EL.

ON NIGHT SEPT. TWENTY LAST CIRCUIT SOLICITOR ARTHUR GAMBLE,
GREENVILLE, ALA., TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED SA SPENCER M. ROBB THE
RETRIAL OF COLLIE LEROY WILKINS HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY,
SEPT. TWENTYNINE NEXT.

bkbla

END PAGE ONE

PAGE TWO



b7c

CLOSE LIAISON WILL BE MAINTAINED WITH GAMBLE AND BUREAU KEPT ADVISED OF ALL DEVELOPMENTS.

END AND ACK PLS

WA MRW

FBI WASH DC

BH BH ARE U THERE

SF JEL

FBI P

26 31 11 31 11

(C: A.C. id)

Williams
By [Signature] Date 1/15/

DECODED COPY

AIRGRAM CABLEGRAM RADIO TELETYPE

R-80

URGENT 9-20-65 6:36 PM

TO DIRECTOR, BIRMINGHAM, MOBILE AND TAMPA
FROM SAN FRANCISCO 202049

EUGENE THOMAS; ET AL; VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA; ET AL - VICTIMS
ER - EL.

A SOUTHERN PAPER HAS PRINTED THAT DEFENSE ATTORNEY SHANES
IS NOT GOING TO ASK FOR A TRIAL DELAY AND THAT TRIAL WILL
BEGIN SEPTEMBER 27, NEXT.

RECEIVED: 7:20 PM RTS

DIA

REC 44-28606-1468

6 SEP 23 1965

DE-EX-173

RELANED TO BIRMINGHAM, MOBILE AND TAMPA

70 SEP

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

9/22/65

CODE

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO SACS, MOBILE, BIRMINGHAM AND SAN FRANCISCO
FROM DIRECTOR FBI

1 - Mr. Hines

EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL; VIOLA LIUZZO, ET AL - VICTIMS;
CIVIL RIGHTS - ELECTION LAWS.

RE MOBILE TEL TO DIRECTOR, BIRMINGHAM AND SAN FRANCISCO
SEPTEMBER TWENTY-ONE, SIXTYFIVE.

THE STATEMENT OF ALABAMA ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL JOE
BRECK GANTT THAT HE IS ATTEMPTING TO GET A CONTINUANCE IN THE
WILKINS CASE BUT DOUBTS THAT HE WILL BE SUCCESSFUL

Tolson _____
Callahan _____
Mohr _____
Felt _____
Tavel _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

JWH/pak

(3)

NOTE ON NEXT PAGE...

70 SEP 26 1965

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

4 SEP 22 1965
ENCIPHERED

EX-113

REC-66

525
SEP 22 1965
74-238-221

NR-221-301
ENC
DN

SEP 23 1965
LOGGED BY

NOTE: The state murder trial of Collie LeRoy Wilkins and possibly the other two subjects for the shooting of Viola Liuzzo has been set for 9/29/65,

[REDACTED] Alabama Assistant Attorney General Gant has advised that the state Attorney General's Office had taken over these two cases from the circuit solicitor Joe Gamble and would attempt to obtain a continuance in both cases but that he doubted if he would be successful in the Wilkins case.

[REDACTED]

b7c

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
SEP 24 1965

TELETYPE

NPA
9/24/65
FBI SAN FRAN

Mr. Mohr
Mr. Melvin
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. Roots
Mr. Holmes
Mr. Gandy

4:44PM PDST URGENT 9-23-65 CAN
~~TO DIRECTOR (44-28601) AND MOBILE (44-1245)~~
~~FROM SAN FRANCISCO (44-609) 1P~~

EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL; VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA ET AL DASH VICTIMS.
CR DASH EL.

MOBILE SUTEL BUREAU AND SAN FRANCISCO TONIGHT DATE SET FOR
TRIAL.

END

WA...MSE

FBI WASH DC

HO...VFP

FBI MOBILE

TU CLR

REC-62

44-28601-464
SEP 24 1965
6/17

69 SEP 23 1965

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

SEP 23 1965

U 712 PM CST URGENT

9/23/65 -

TELETYPE VFP

TO DIRECTOR /44-28601/ BIRMINGHAM AND SAN FRANCISCO /44-6
FROM MOBILE /44-1245/
EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL; VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA ET AL DASH VICTIMS
CR DASH EL.

REBUTEL THIS DATE AND SF TEL THIS DATE.

JOE BRECK GANT, ALA AAG THIS DATE ADVISED THAT HE IS STILL
MOST ANXIOUS TO OBTAIN CONTINUANCE IN BOTH COLEMAN AND WILKINS
CASES AND WILL HAVE NO DEFINITE KNOWLEDGE UNTIL AFTER MOTIONS
ARE MADE AND RULED UPON NINE TWENTY SEVEN SIXTYFIVE IN CIRCUIT
COURT IN HAYNEVILLE.

BUREAU AND INTERESTED OFFICES WILL IMMEDIATELY BE ADVISED
WHEN TRIAL DATE KNOWN.

END

WA JRL

FBI WASH DC

BH -HEP

FBI BIRMGHAM

SF KMH

FBI SAN FRAN

TU ALİ ÇLEŞAR

53 OCT-4 1965

REC-9

Exhibit

1 SEP 1984 1965

ED

FBI TAMPA

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

SEP 27 1965

TELETYPE

OK GA PL

8 543 PM EST URGENT NOV 9/27/65 VFP

TO DIRECTOR, BIRMINGHAM AND TAMPA
FROM MOBILE 144-1245

EUGENE THOMAS, ETAL; VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA, ETAL - VICTIMS;
CR EL.

REMOTEL THIS DATE.
JOE BRECK GANTT, AAG, MONTGOMERY, ALA., ADVISES WILL NOT
HAVE INFORMATION CONCERNING DATE WITNESSES NEEDED UNTIL
SOMETIME DURING SEPT. TWENTYEIGHT INSTANT. BUREAU AND INTERESTED
OFFICES WILL BE ADVISED.

END

WA MSE

FBI WASH DC

BK WCR

FBI BIRMGHAM

TP CWL

FBI TAMPA

TU OP ALL CLE

EX-103

REC-6

44-28688
SEP 28 1965

50 OCT 5 1965

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Belmont _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Miss Gandy _____
Mr. Casper _____
Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Conrad _____
Mr. Felt _____
Mr. Gale _____
Miss H. _____
Mr. Sullivan _____
Mr. Tavel _____
Mr. Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

SEP 27 1965

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Belmont _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Tavel _____
Mr. Casper _____
Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Conrad _____
Mr. Felt _____
Mr. G. [Signature]
Mr. Sullivan _____
Miss Tavel _____
Mr. Trotter _____
Tele Room _____
Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

FBI MOBILE

3:53 PM CST URGENT 9/27/65 LLO

TO: DIRECTOR (44-28601), BIRMINGHAM (44-1236) AND
TAMPA (44-313)

FROM: MOBILE (44-1245)

EUGENE THOMAS, ETAL; VIOLA LIUZZO - VICTIM, ETAL: CR.

REMOTEL SEPTEMBER TWENTYSEVEN SIXTYFIVE.

AT CONCLUSION OF HEARING ON TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER

IN BOTH ██████████ AND INSTANT CASE HELD IN USDC,
MONTGOMERY, ALA., THIS DATE, CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE
RICHARD T. RIVES, WHO HEARD CASE IN ABSENCE OF JUDGE FRANK H.
JOHNSON, JR., DENIED MOTION BY ACLU ATTORNEY FOR TEMPORARY
RESTRAINING ORDER. ATTORNEY GENERAL RICHMOND FLOWERS ADVISED
IS STILL NOT CERTAIN EXACT DATE ROVE AND AGENT WITNESSES WILL
BE REQUIRED, BUT STATED WILL ADVISE THIS AFTERNOON. BUREAU
AND INTERESTED OFFICES WILL BE ADVISED IMMEDIATELY UPON
RECEIPT OF THIS INFORMATION. EC-103 114-28601-469

6 OCT E 1965

SEP 28 1965

PAGE TWO

END AND ACK PLS

WA LLD 1984

FBI WASH. D.C. 5-11

BH JGA-2. 2. 1

FBI BIRMGHAM

TP AMB

FBI TAMPA

- TUDISCO

304

1

9-25-65

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

1- Mr. Kelly

TO SAC BIRMINGHAM

FROM DIRECTOR FBI

EUGENE THOMAS ROWE; ET AL; VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA, ET AL
DASH VICTIMS, CR DASH EL.

REPTEL NINE TWENTY FOUR LAST

BIRMINGHAM INSURE PERTINENT INFORMATION RETEL
FURNISHED MOBILE AND INSTRUCT MOBILE TO IMMEDIATELY
ADVISE BUREAU AND TAMPA WHEN TRIAL DATE SET.

JGK:mmb

(3)

EX-100

REC-49

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

SEP 25 1965

TELETYPE

SEP 27 1965

Informs _____
Holmes _____
Mohr _____
DeLoach _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

57 SEP 30 1965

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

22/65

GENERAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION

The trial of Collie LeRoy Wilkins
for the shooting of Mrs. Viola Liuzzo
3/25/65, is set for 9/29/65

[REDACTED] b7c
Hayneville, Alabama, on state indictments.

The Department will be advised of
information in attached and their
recommendation regarding furnishing our
reports in the Coleman case will be
followed.

b7a

JWH:pah

✓ ✓

SEP 21 1965

TELETYPE

FBI MOBILE

743 PM CS URGENT 9/21/65

VFP

TO DIRECTOR, BIRMINGHAM AND SAN FRANCISCO
FROM MOBILE 144-1245/

EUGENE THOMAS, ETAL. VIOLA LIUZZO, ETAL-VICTIMS; CR, ET AL.

REMOTEL THIS DATE.

AT FIVE TEN PM THIS DATE JOE BRECK GANTT, ASSISTANT AG, [REDACTED] STATE OF ALA., TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED SA [REDACTED] THAT HE [REDACTED] ON THIS DATE AG RICHMOND FLOWERS HAD RELIEVED CIRCUIT SOLICITOR ARTHUR GAMBLE OF HIS DUTIES AS PROSECUTOR IN THE CASES OF COLLIE LEROY WILKINS, ETAL, [REDACTED] IN [REDACTED] LOWNDES COUNTY, ALA., AND HAD ASSIGNED THE PROSECUTION OF THESE TWO CASES TO GANTT. GANTT STATED HE IS GOING TO ATTEMPT TO GET A CONTINUANCE IN BOTH CASES BUT HAS DOUBTS OF BEING SUCCESSFUL IN GETTING CONTINUANCE IN THE WILKINS, ET AL CASE, ALTHOUGH EXPECTS CONTINUANCE IN [REDACTED] CASE. GANTT STATED DESIRES COPIES OF FBI REPORTS IN WILKINS, ET AL CASE, AS WELL AS [REDACTED] CASE. HE WAS

END PAGE ONE

REC-26 111-191601474

EX 110

5 SEP 27 1965

51 OCT 1 1965

PAGE TWO

ADVISED ALL INFORMATION WHICH COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE BY FBI
WAS GIVEN TO GAMBLE IN WILKINS CASE [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] GANTT STATED STATUS b7c
OF WITNESSES FOR WILKINS CASE SHOULD REMAIN THE SAME AND IF
CONTINUANCE GRANTED HE WILL IMMEDIATELY CONVEY INFORMATION TO THE
FBI SO TRAVEL OF WITNESSES CAN BE STOPPED.

BUREAU WILL BE KEPT ADVISED OF ANY FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS.

END

WA ...MSE

FBI WASH DC

BH WCR

FBI BIRMGHAM

SF R;LH

FBI SAN FRAN

TU ALL CLEARP

END OF MESSAGE

26 SE 10 13 88

FBI WASH DC

FBI MOBILE

2:35 PM CST URGENT 9/29/65 FBW

TO: DIRECTOR (44-28601)
FROM: MOBILE (44-1245) PI

EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL; VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA, ET AL -
VICTIMS; CR, EL.

REBURAD, NINE TWENTYEIGHT INSTANT.

IN REGARD TO SUBPOENA DUCES TECUM ISSUED TO SA ROBERT
L. FRYE MOTION TO QUASH AND HEARING WAS HELD INSTANT DATE
AND MOTION TO QUASH WAS GRANTED.

END

WA... BMS

FBI, WASH DC

EX-103 11:12 SEP 30 1965

Li
W
B

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Felt
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gandy
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tel. Room
Mrs. Holmes
Mrs. Gandy

FBI MOBILE

642 PM CST URGENT 9/29/65 VFP

TO BUREAU /44-28601/, BIRMINGHAM /44-1236/ AND TAMPA /44-313/
FROM MOBILE /44-1245/

EUGENE THOMAS, ETAL, VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA ETAL DASH VICTIMS
CR EL.

REMOTEL SEPTEMBER TWENTYNINE INSTANT.

CIRCUIT JUDGE THAGGARD, LOWNES COUNTY ALA AFTER CONFERENCE
WITH PROSECUTION AND DEFENCE ATTORNEYS POST PONED TRIAL OF INSTANT
CASE UNTIL OCTOBER EIGHTEEN NEXT.

BUREAU AND BIRMINGHAM REQUESTED TO PROVIDE INSTRUCTIONS TO TAMPA.

END

WA LLD

FBI WASH DC

BH HEP

FBI BIRMGHAM

TP LS

FBI TAMPA

TU ALL CLE

A

REC-23

44-28601-426

OCT 6 1965

EDT-Y3

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI (44-28601)

DATE: 10/5/65

FROM : SAC, Birmingham (44-1236) (P)

SUBJECT: EUGENE THOMAS; ET AL;
VIOLA LIUZZO, aka;
ET AL - VICTIMS
CR

At regular weekly meeting of Eastview Klavern Number 13, United Klans of America, Inc., Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, on September 23, 1965, which was attended by 17 members, including [REDACTED] the topic of the forthcoming trial of COLLIE LEROY WILKINS was discussed from the floor.

Exalted Cyclops EUGENE REEVES stated he had recently received a summons to appear at the trial in Hayneville, Alabama. It was stated that ROBERT THOMAS, Great Titan, was also due to be there, but he did not say whether or not he had received an official summons.

[REDACTED]

b7d

No further discussion on the trial was made at the Eastview Klavern meeting.

REC-15

44-381-61-477

1 OCT 6 1965

2-Bureau (RM)
2-Mobile (RM)
2-Birmingham
AJG:ela
(6)

53 OCT 11 1965

TELETYPE
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

OCT 12 1965

TELETYPE

910 PM, CST URGENT

10/12/65

VFP

TO DIRECTOR /44-28601/, ATLANTA, BIRMINGHAM AND SAN FRANCISCO.
FROM MOBILE /44-1245/

Releas

EUGENE THOMAS; ET AL; VIOLA GREGG LIUZZO, AKA.; ET AL
VICTIMS. CR EL.

FOR INFORMATION OF BUREAU, CIRCUIT SOLICITOR ARTHUR E. GAMBLE, JR., GREENVILLE, ALA., CONFIDENTIALLY ADVISED ON OCTOBER ELEVEN, LAST, THAT JUDGE T. WERTH THAGARD HAD INSTRUCTED HIM TO BE PREPARED TO PROCEED WITH COLLIE LEROY WILKINS TRIAL ON OCTOBER EIGHTEEN, NEXT. ^{SAYD} SAYD HAS BEEN REMOVED FROM THE CASE BY ALA. ATTORNEY GENERAL RICHMOND FLOWERS, BUT HE UNDERSTANDS THAT ATTORNEY GENERAL'S REPRESENTATIVE PLANNING TO ASK FOR CONTINUANCE OF TRIAL IN VIEW OF LOCAL RACIAL SITUATION AND APPARENT CRITICISM OF HANDLING OF CASE INVOLVING THOMAS L. COLEMAN IN HIS SHOOTING OF JONATHAN DANIELS IN HAYNEVILLE, ALA.

ADDED IT IS HIS OPINION TRIAL SHOULD BE HELD AT THIS TIME. HE ANTICIPATES JUDGE THAGARD ORDERING HIM TO PROCEED WITH CASE AFTER REMOVAL OF THE STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL FROM CASE, AS HAPPENED IN COLEMAN TRIAL. REC-53

END PAGE ONE.... CORR LINE 7 WORD 5 SHOULD BE "SAID"

44-28601-492 OCT 15 1965

Yours, Ron L.

EX-103

6 AMT

PAGE TWO

HE ASKED THAT GOVERNMENT WITNESSES, INCLUDING GARY THOMAS ROWE, LAB EXPERT [REDACTED] WILLIAMS, BIRMINGHAM FBI AGENTS WHO TESTIFIED IN PREVIOUS TRIAL, AND VOUCHER SECTION EMPLOYEE WHO TESTIFIED AS TO PAYMENTS MADE TO ROWE

BE ALERTED FOR TRAVEL TO BE IN HAYNEVILLE ON OCTOBER NINETEEN, NEXT FOR TESTIMONY. HE SAID IF TRIAL IS HELD, MONDAY WILL BE TAKEN UP WITH SELECTION OF JURORS AND LOCAL WITNESSES IF TESTIMONY IS TAKEN ON THAT DATE. HE ALSO REQUESTED THAT LEROY MOTON, WHO IS PRESENTLY ON STAFF AT A FREEDOM SCHOOL IN CRAWFORDVILLE, GA, BE NOTIFIED TO BE AVAILABLE ON SHORT NOTICE FOR TRIAL. HE WILL MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR LOCAL FBI AGENT TO BE NOTIFIED ON MONDAY IF TRIAL IS TO PROCEED. BUREAU AND INTERESTED OFFICES WILL BE NOTIFIED IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIPT OF THIS INFORMATION.

ATLANTA DIVISION, LOCATE AND NOTIFY MOTON.

BIRMINGHAM AND BUREAU REQUESTED TO ALERT PERSONNEL. P.

END

WA JMS

FBI WASH DC

AT LWG

FBI ATLANTA

BH WCR

FBI BIRMGHAM

SF WE

FBI SAN FRAN

TU ALL CLEARQUI

CALLED:

By

FBI WASH DC

ALL INFORMATION
CONTAINED HEREIN
IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10-13-2001 BY [redacted]

FBI BIRMGHAM

3:51 PM CST RUGENT 10-13-65 DLR
TO DIRECTOR (44-28601)
FROM SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1236)

TELETYPE

EUGENE THOMAS; ET AL; VIOLA GREGG LIUZZO, AKA; ET AL -
VICTIMS. CR - EL.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Felt _____
Mr. Casper _____
Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Conrad _____
Mr. Bell _____
Mr. Gale _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sullivan _____
Mr. Tavel _____
Mr. Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Miss Powers _____
Miss Gandy _____

ON THE AFTERNOON OF OCTOBER TWELVE, LAST, MR. PAUL JOHNSTON,
ATTORNEY FOR GARY THOMAS ROWE, JR., CALLED THE BIRMINGHAM OFFICE
AND REQUESTED THAT ROWE CONTACT HIM BY PHONE SOMETIME NEXT WEEK IF
ROWE IS IN ALABAMA FOR THE TRIAL OF COLLIE LEROY WILKINS.

JOHNSTON STATED HE WISHED TO DISCUSS FURTHER OFFER FROM
WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIK RE STORY ON ROWE.

UACB ROWE WILL BE INSTRUCTED TO TELEPHONE MR. JOHNSTON
SOMETIME NEXT WEEK WHILE IN ALABAMA. ROWE WILL NOT REVEAL HIS
SPECIFIC WHEREABOUTS AT THE TIME OF THE REC-43

AIR MAIL COPIES TO MOBILE AND [REDACTED] 10/14/65

END

WA DLH

FBI WASH DC

3 OCT 15 1965

60001-177

Copy to [signature]

FBI WASH EC

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

OCT 12 1965

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Feltz	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gandy	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

FBI MOBILE

4-10 PM CST URGENT 10-12-65 JEB
TO DIRECTOR (44-28601)
FROM MOBILE (44-1245) 3P

EUGENE THOMAS; ET, AL; VIOLA GREGG LIUZZO, AKA; ET, AL;
CIV RIGHTS SELMA LAWS
VICTIMS. -CR- EL.

SA ROBERT L. FRYE WAS DELIVERED A SUBPOENA TODAY AT SELMA
REQUESTING HIS APPEARANCE AS A WITNESS FOR THE DEFENSE IN
THE FORTHCOMING TRIAL OF COLLIE LEROY WILKINS, OCTOBER EIGHTEEN,
NEXT.

IT IS BELIEVED DEFENSE ATTORNEY ARTHUR J. HANES HAD SUBPOENA
ISSUED TO UTILIZE SA FRYE FOR PURPOSE OF INTRODUCING INFORMATION

REC-68

8 OCT 15 1965

END PAGE ONE

66 OCT 20 1965

PAGE TWO

[REDACTED] b7A
[REDACTED]
INVESTIGATOR RUFUS HEAD HAS ALSO BEEN SUBPOENAED BY DEFENSE AND HANES WAS OVERHEARD TALKING TO HEAD ON SEPTEMBER TWENTY-NINE, LAST, IN COURTHOUSE, HAYNEVILLE, ALA., REGARDING THIS PARTICULAR INFORMATION.

SA FRYE HAS HAD NO OTHER CONNECTION WITH CAPTIONED CASE, FROM AN INVESTIGATIVE STANDPOINT, AND ONLY HANDLED ADMINISTRATION OF CASE [REDACTED] b7A

[REDACTED]
Asst. United States Attorney MIDDLE DISTRICT OF ALABAMA
THIS MATTER WAS DISCUSSED WITH AUSA J. O. SENTELL, MDA, United States Attorney MONTGOMERY, ALA., TODAY IN ABSENCE OF USA BEN HARDEMAN, WHO IS UNAVAILABLE UNTIL OCTOBER SIXTEEN, NEXT.

SENTELL STATED HE HAD PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED THE POSSIBILITY OF SA FRYE TESTIFYING WITH USA HARDEMAN, AND THEY HAVE NO OBJECTION TO TESTIMONY THAT IS COMPETENT AND RELEVANT; THAT SA FRYE [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] HOWEVER,
SENTELL POINTED OUT THAT IF HANES DESIRED PRETRIAL CONFERENCE
END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

United States Attorney's

WITH SA FRYE, A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE USA'S OFFICE SHOULD BE
PRESENT AT TIME OF CONFERENCE.

SUGGEST BUREAU BRING THIS MATTER TO ATTENTION OF DEPT.
ATTYS. JAMES TURNER AND SAINT JOHN BARRETT, WHO HAVE HANDLED

GOVERNMENT'S CASE IN THIS MATTER IN MDA IN COOPERATION WITH
United States Attorney, FEDERAL DISTRICT OF ALABAMA.

USA, MDA.

Unless Advised to Contrary by B.M. or

UACB, SA FRYE WILL APPEAR IN ANSWER TO THE SUBPOENA,
HAYNEVILLE, ALA., OCTOBER EIGHTEEN, NEXT. P.

END

WA ..JXM

FBI WASH DC

F B I

Date: 10/13/65

Transmit the following in

PLAIN TEXT

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via TELETYPE

URGENT

(Priority)

TO DIRECTOR /AIRMAIL//44-28601/, ATLANTA, AND MOBILE /44-1245/
FROM SAVANNAH /174-7/

EUGENE THOMAS; COLLIE LEROY WILKINS; ET AL; VIOLA GREGG LIUZZO,
AKA.; ET AL - VICTIMS. CR EL.

RE MOBILE TEL, OCT. TWELVE, LAST.

ADVISED ON OCT. THIRTEEN, INST., THAT LE ROY MOTON LEFT [REDACTED] b7c
CRAWFORDVILLE, GA., ELEVEN P.M., OCT. ELEVEN, LAST, TO RETURN
TO SCOPE HOUSE, FIVE SIX THREE JOHNSON AVE., ATLANTA, GA.
MOTON PRESENTLY EMPLOYED AS COOK THERE.

ATLANTA, HANDLE.

AIRMAIL COPY INST. TEL TO BUREAU.

END.

REC-55

OCT 14 1965

1- Bureau (44-28601) (AM) (RM)

1- Savannah (174-7)

WCT:ehr

Approved 500 OCT 20 1965 F/17
Special Agent in Charge

Sent: _____ M Per: _____

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: October 13, 1965

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL;
VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA, ET AL - VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS - ELECTION LAWS

1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Malley
1 - Mr. McGowan
1 - Mr. Hines

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
DeLoach _____
Carroll _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Bell ____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

(C) The retrial of Collie Leroy Wilkins, Jr., for the murder of Mrs. Viola Liuzzo in Lowndes County, Alabama, on 3/25/65 is scheduled to take place in the Alabama Circuit Court, Hayneville, Alabama, 10/18/65. It will be recalled that when this case was first called for retrial on 9/27/65, Alabama Attorney General Richmond Flowers took over prosecution of the case from Circuit Solicitor Arthur E. Gamble, Jr., who tried the case initially in May, 1965. The initial trial resulted in a hung jury.

[REDACTED]

b7A

Gamble asked that Government witnesses, including our informant Gary Thomas Rowe, our FBI Laboratory expert who handled examination of the murder weapon and our Voucher Section employee who can testify [REDACTED] be alerted for travel to be in Hayneville on 10/19/65. Gamble said he will notify the local FBI on Monday, 10/18/65, if trial is to proceed. The Government witnesses and Agents requested by Gamble to testify have been alerted, however, they will not undertake travel until notice is received on Monday, 10/18/65, that their testimony is actually needed on 10/19/65.

AEC-38

JWH/rat
(8)

EX 110

31 OCT 19 1965 CONTINUED - OVER

6 OCT 19 1965 FILED

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL;

In connection with the upcoming trial, SA Robert L. Frye of the Selma, Alabama, Resident Agency, received a subpoena 10/12/65 commanding his appearance as a witness for the defendant Collie Leroy Wilkins on 10/18/65. From information available it is believed that defense attorney Arthur J. Hanes, who is former FBI Agent and adamant segregationist, had the subpoena issued in order to utilize SA Frye for the purpose of introducing information obtained [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] It is noted b7A
that Moton was the young Negro boy who accompanied Mrs. Liuzzo at the time of the shooting.

The matter of the receipt of the subpoena by SA Frye was discussed with the U. S. Attorney's Office, Montgomery, Alabama, and the U. S. Attorney advised they have no objection to testimony of SA Frye that is competent and relevant.

will be Since Moton
has been called to the stand to testify.

ACTION

SA Frye will appear in answer to the subpoena as suggested by the Department and his testimony will be limited to that which is competent and relevant. This matter is being closely followed and you will be advised of developments.

P

Post

Callahan

Mr. F. B. I.
Tele. 1-2121
Miss Gandy

FBI MOBILE

7:40 P M CST 10/15/65 URGENT CCM

TO DIRECTOR, BIRMINGHAM AND SAN FRANCISCO
FROM MOBILE (44-1245)

EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL. VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA., ET AL.
VICTIMS. CR - EL.

REBURAD, OCTOBER FIFTEEN, INSTANT.

JOE BRECK GANTI, ASSISTANT TO ATTORNEY GENERAL RICHMOND FLOWERS, ADVISED TODAY THAT HE IS REMOVING COUNTY SOLICITOR ARTHUR GAMBLE FROM TRIAL OF INSTANT CASE, AND THAT HE WOULD TRY THE CASE. WILL ASK FOR A CONTINUANCE, KNOWING THAT IT WILL BE DENIED, BUT HE WILL THEREAFTER TRY THE CASE.

END

WA SC SXC

FBI WASH DC

BH HEP

FBI BIRMGHAM

SF ADVISED SEPARATELY

TU CSM DISC DATED 10/15/65

REC # 44-38601-499
8 OCT 18 1965

Callahan
10/15/65
Copy to Jones

F B I

Date: 10/15/65

Transmit the following in

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTELAIRMAIL

(Priority)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI
 SAC, MOBILE (44-1245)

FROM : SAC, ATLANTA (44-1765)

SUBJECT : EUGENE THOMAS,
 COLLIE LEROY WILKINS;
 ET AL;
 VIOLA GREGG LIUZZO, aka;
 ET AL - VICTIMS
 CR - EL

Re Mobile teletype 10/12/65 and
 Savannah teletype 10/13/65.

LEROY MOTON is presently living and
 working in the SCLO Freedom House, 563 Johnson Ave.,
 Atlanta, Ga. He was advised to be available on short
 notice for trial, and he stated that he will notify
 the Atlanta FBI Office if he should do any travelling
 at all.

(3) - Bureau
 2 - Mobile
 2 - Atlanta

CSH:mel

(7)

REC-11

44-2860-500

10-17 OCT 16 1965

Dr C. Wick

SAC/NET 22107 10-17-65

Approved:

Sent

M Per

Special Agent in Charge

10, /65

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

At 2:25 a. m. on 10/19/65, John Doar, Civil Rights Division, advised he received call from Dr. Rosen, Medical Committee for Human Rights, Selma, Alabama, advising that Mrs. Barbara Butler, who is associated with the committee, had not returned from trial of Collie Leroy Wilkins, Jr., on 10/18/65, as scheduled. Wilkins being retried on state murder charges in connection with shooting of Mrs. Viola Liuzzo in Lowndes County on night of 3/25/65. Trial taking place in Hayneville, Alabama.

FCF:pah)

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

The retrial of Collie Leroy Wilkins, Jr. for the murder of Mrs. Viola Liuzzo, is expected to commence in State Court, Hayneville, Alabama, on 10-18-65.

Departmental Attorney Turner, mentioned herein, is coordinating trial for the Government.

State Attorney General's Office plans to remove County Solicitor from trial and handle the prosecution.

This matter is being closely followed.

HCS:tmt

)5(

COPY SENT TO MR. TURNER

FBI MOBILE

7:37 PM CDT 10/15/65 URGENT . CCM

~~TO DIRECTOR AND BIRMINGHAM~~
~~FROM MOBILE (44-1245)~~

EUGENE THOMAS; ET AL. VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA.; ET AL.
VICTIMS. GR - EL.

DEPARTMENTAL ATTORNEY JAMES TURNER HAS MADE REQUEST FOR
A CHECK OF THE INDICES OF THE JURY PANEL IN INSTANT CASE.
HE STATES THE RESULTS OF THE INDICES CHECK WOULD BE ORALLY
GIVEN TO THE PROSECUTOR OF INSTANT CASE IN THE EVENT IT IS
ASKED FOR. THE INDICES CHECK INDICATES SOME NINE PERSONS LISTED
ON THE VENIRE WHO HAD SOME CONNECTIONS WITH EITHER THE U.S. KLAN,
UNITED KLAN OF AMERICA, A CITIZENS COUNCIL, OR WERE AT ONE TIME
UNDER INVESTIGATION. DEPARTMENTAL ATTORNEY ADVISES THAT HE WILL
PROVIDE INFORMATION ONLY UPON EXPRESSED APPROVAL OF ASSISTANT
ATTORNEY GENERAL DOAR. P. REC 23

END

END AND HOLD

WA SXC

FBI WASH DC

BH HEP

FBI BIRMGHAM

III - HOLD

600077015.3712

10/19/65

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

This matter concerns the retrial of Collie Leroy Wilkins, Jr., on State murder charges in connection with the shooting of Mrs. Viola Luzzo in Lowndes County on the night of 3/25/65 which began in State Circuit Court, Hayneville, Alabama. Was initially tried on this charge in May, 1965, which resulted in a hung jury. Trial in this matter is being closely followed and you will be kept advised of developments.

JWH:mfd

J R
44-28601507

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

OCT 18 1965

TELETYPE

610 PM CST URGENT, 10/18/65

VTP

TO DIRECTOR /44-28601/ AND BIRMINGHAM /44-1236/
FROM MOBILE /44-1245/

EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL; VIOLA, GREGG LIUZZO, AKAS, ET AL
VICTIMS. BR. EC. RE: 44-1245-1672-1985

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Miss Holmes	✓
Miss Gandy	✓
Mr. Bishop	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Miss Holmes	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

COURT BEGAN TODAY AT NINE AM - 895, IN CAPTIONED
MATTER AT HAYNEVILLE, ALA.

... ENTIRE MORNING TAKEN UP WITH INTENSIVE QUESTIONING OF EACH JUROR ON VENIRE REGARDING THEIR FEELINGS CONCERNING CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVITIES, MEMBERSHIP IN SECRET ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE KU KLUX KLAN, AND THEIR SYMPATHIES REGARDING THE KILLING OF WHITES WHO SOCALIZE AND ARE ACTIVE IN THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT AND IF THEY COULD IMPOSE THE DEATH PENALTY IN THE EVENT OF A CONVICTION.

SIX NEGROES WERE ON JURY VENIRE AND TWO HAVE BEEN QUESTIONED AS OF NOON TODAY. THEY WERE QUESTIONED CLOSELY.
END PAGE ONE . . .

REC AS

18 OCT 21 1965

600-1261-3107

MR. BELWITZ FOR THE DIRECTOR

PAGE TWO

BY DEFENSE COUNSEL ARTHUR J. HANES AND PROSECUTION COUNSLS
ATTORNEY
JOE BECK GANTT AND STATE ATTY. GENERAL RICHMOND FLOWERS.

LINE OF QUESTIONING POSED BY DEFENSE SURROUNDED THEIR
MEMBERSHIP IN NEGRO CIVIL RIGHTS GROUPS AND THEIR GENERAL
FEELINGS REGARDING THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT. PROSECUTION
QUESTIONS WERE POINTED AT DEVELOPING THEIR GENERAL
QUALIFICATIONS AS JURY MEMBES AND WHETHER THEY COULD
IMPOSE THE DEATH PENALTY IN THE EVENT OF A CONVICTION.

ONE JURY MEMBER, CHARLES E. BENDER, WHO IS EMPLOYED
COMPANY ALABAMA
BY GOLSON MOTOR CO., FT. DEPOSIT, ALA., ADMITTED KLAN
MEMBERSHIP " SOME TWELVE YEARS AGO."

DURING THE AFTERNOON ADDITIONAL JURY MEMBERS WERE EXCUSED
FOR EIGHTER NOT BELIEVING IN THE DEATH PENALTY, HAVING FIXED OPINION
OR BEING A MEMBER OF THE AUXILLIARY POLICE FORCE.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE....

COURT RECESSED AT THREE PM, CST, FOR A PERIOD OF
FIFTEEN MINUTES AND DURING RECESS IT WAS OBSERVED THAT
GRAND DRAGON, LUKAS ROBERT GREEL WAS PRESENT IN COURTHOUSE
SQUARE AND HE, WITH EUGENE THOMAS AND OTHER INDIVIDUALS WHO
SEEMED TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH HIM, PASSED A FOOTBALL BACK
AND FORTH WITH DEFENSE COUNSEL ARTHUR J. HANES.

AFTER RECESS FURTHER QUESTIONING TOOK PLACE OF THE
JURORS, AND AS OF FOUR FIFTEEN PM, CST ONLY TWENTYNINE
MEMBERS OF THE JURY REMAINED. THE STATE CODE REQUIRES A
TOTAL OF THIRTY MEMBERS TO BE ON VENIRE IN ORDER TO STRIKE
A JURY. ADDITIONAL MEMBERS OF THE JURY BEING DRAWN BY
JUDGE THAGGARD AND QUALIFYING TO RESUME NEXT DATE.

P.

END

WA, NHD

FBI WASH DC

BH WCR

FBI BIRMGHAM

TU ALL CLEAR

5/65

GENERAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION

b7A

Viola Liuzzo was the civil rights worker who was killed in Lowndes County, Alabama, 3/25/65. Collie Leroy Wilkins was one of three subjects charged by the State of Alabama with the murder and is to be re-tried by the state 10/18/65, following a hung jury in earlier trial in May, 1965.

Information furnished by Dept. Attorney Turner will be discussed with the Department and appropriate action taken.

DGL:gs (5)

44-28601-508

REC-74

44-28601 509

October 15, 1965

1 - Mr. Hines

EUGENE THOMAS
WILLIAM ORVILLE EATON,
COLLIE LEROY WILKINS;
VIOLA LIUZZO - VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS - ELECTION LAWS

Mrs. Viola Liuzzo, civil rights worker, was shot and killed in Lowndes County, Alabama, on the night of March 25, 1965. The subjects Thomas, Eaton and Wilkins are under indictment by the State of Alabama on charges of murdering Mrs. Liuzzo. In May, 1965, Collie Leroy Wilkins was brought to trial on the indictment and, when the jury could not agree on a verdict, a mistrial was called. The retrial of Wilkins is scheduled to begin in the Circuit Court, Lowndes County, Alabama, on October 18, 1965.

Tolson
DeLoach
Mohr
Felt
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

JUL/ral 10/15/65. Wm. C. Wren & Vice to state re: Mrs. Liuzzo's death. J. T. Trotter, Director, FBI, Mobile, AL, advised that he has received a wire from the Director, FBI, Washington, DC, concerning the death of Mrs. Viola Liuzzo. The Director advised that he had been informed that Mrs. Liuzzo was shot and killed in Lowndes County, Alabama, on March 25, 1965. The Director further advised that he had been informed that three persons were indicted for the killing of Mrs. Liuzzo. The three persons are Eugene Thomas, William Orville Eaton, and Collie Leroy Wilkins. The Director further advised that the trial of Collie Leroy Wilkins was held in May, 1965, and that a mistrial was declared because the jury could not agree on a verdict. The Director further advised that the retrial of Collie Leroy Wilkins is scheduled to begin in the Circuit Court, Lowndes County, Alabama, on October 18, 1965. The Director further advised that he had been informed that the three persons indicted for the killing of Mrs. Liuzzo are under indictment by the State of Alabama on charges of murder.

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
OCT 20 1965

TELETYPE

F
FBI WASH DC

FBI MOBILE

12:37 PM CST URGENT 10/20/65 TEB

TO: DIRECTOR (44-28601)
FROM: MOBILE (44-1245) 1 PAGE

EUGENE THOMAS; ET AL; VIOLA GREGG LIUZZO, AKA; ET AL
CIVIL RIGHTS ACT, 1964 LAWS.
VICTIMS. CR, EL.

REMOTEL TEN NINETEEN LAST.

ALABAMA SUPREME COURT THIS DATE DENIED ATTORNEY GENERAL'S
PETITION IN CONNECTION WITH DISQUALIFICATION OF ELEVEN
PROSPECTIVE JURORS. ATTORNEY GENERAL FLOWERS ADVISED AT
TWELVE NOON, HE INTENDS TO PROCEED WITH TRIAL OF CASE THIS
DATE. BUREAU WILL BE KEPT ADVISED OF DEVELOPMENTS. P.

CORR-LINE 6 WORD 3 SHOULD BE ATTORNEY

END

WA.....MRW

FBI WASH DC

TU DISC

CC-MR. ROSEN

OCT 20 1965

MR. BELMONT FOR THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Belmont	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Clegg	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Casper	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Callahan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Conrad	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Felt	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Gale	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Rosen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Sullivan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tavel	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Trotter	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input type="checkbox"/>
Miss Holmes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Miss Gandy	<input type="checkbox"/>

W.C.G.

V

McG

Johnson

Hopps

REC-7944-28601-511

EX-100 10 OCT 22 1965

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
DeLoach _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

UPI-113

ADD KLANSMAN, MONTGOMERY (UPI-104)

THE ALABAMA SUPREME COURT TODAY REJECTED A PLEA TO BAR 11 WHITE SUPREMacists FROM THE JURY IN THE MURDER TRIAL OF KU KLUX KLANSMAN COLLIE LEROY WILKINS AND ORDERED THE TRIAL TO PROCEED.

10/20--EG202FED

STOSUR

44-28601-511

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

Tolson _____
 Belmont _____
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 Trotter _____
 Tele Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

UPI-104

(KLANSMAN)

MONTGOMERY, ALA.--THE ALABAMA SUPREME COURT TODAY HEARD AND TOOK UNDER ADVISEMENT A PLEA BY STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL RICHMOND FLOWERS TO BAR "WHITE SUFFICIENCY" JURORS IN THE MURDER TRIAL OF KU KLUX KLANSMAN COLLIE LEROY WILKINS.

FLOWERS TOLD THE COURT THAT THE STATE COULD NOT GET A FAIR TRIAL WITH SOME OF THE WHITE MEN ON THE JURY WHO HAVE BEEN TENTATIVELY APPROVED AS PROSPECTIVE JURORS.

THE TRIAL ITSELF, FOR THE KILLING OF CIVIL RIGHTS WORKER MRS. VIOLA LIUZZO, HAS BEEN DELAYED IN HAYNEVILLE, ALA., SO THAT THE SUPREME COURT COULD HEAR FLOWERS' PLEA.

DEFENSE ATTORNEY ARTHUR HANES ASKED THE STATE HIGH COURT TO DENY FLOWERS' PETITION "SO THAT WE CAN GET ON WITH THE TRIAL OF THIS YOUNG MAN."

A SPEEDY DECISION BY THE COURT WAS EXPECTED. IF IT UPHELD FLOWERS' REQUEST, IT MEANS THAT THE TRIAL OF WILKINS FOR THE SLAYING OF MRS. VIOLA LIUZZO PROBABLY WOULD BE POSTPONED UNTIL NEXT SPRING.

CIRCUIT JUDGE T. WERTH THAGARD WAS WAITING IN HAYNEVILLE FOR A DECISION AND SAID IF HE COULD RESUME THE TRIAL BY 2 P.M. EDT HE WOULD GO AHEAD.

10/20--GE143P

J.O.S./RJ

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

94-2860-511

Belmont _____
Mohr _____
DeLoach _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen *Pols!* _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

Letters to the Editor

Published letters are subject to condensation, and those not selected for publication will be returned only when accompanied by stamped, self-addressed envelopes. The use of pen names is limited to correspondents whose identity is known to The Star.

192 The Hayneville Trial

SIR: Attorney General Katzenbach's glib dismissal of the Coleman acquittal in Hayneville, Alabama, as "the price you have to pay for the jury system," adding that he didn't consider it "too high," is a shocking endorsement of an even more shocking travesty of justice. One can only hope that the Justice Department will look more deeply into the implications of such perverted judicial proceedings for social order and justice in Deep South communities.

Part of the price is already apparent in the sharp decline of Negro voter registration in Lowndes County—reduced from 80 to 20 a day since the August 20 slaying of Jonathan Daniels, Episcopal seminarian and civil rights worker in the Alabama black belt. The shooting, the speedy and predictable acquittal of the killer, and the many similar incidents in recent years are all parts of a pattern of deliberate terror, designed to frustrate the long-overdue efforts of the Federal government to incorporate the Negro into American life.

Jon Daniels and countless others will have died in vain unless a radical reform of the court system and law enforcement procedures is undertaken by this administration and the next session of Congress.

Bert H. Cooper, Jr.

SIR: The possibility that there may have been a miscarriage of justice in Hayneville, Alabama, is not nearly as frightening as the self-righteous bleating of a host of quasi-liberals (including many columnists) which has flooded the land. How can anyone claiming to be concerned with justice and the sanctity of our system of trial by jury, feel qualified to pass judgment on a man they have never seen in a courtroom they have never entered based on evidence they themselves did not hear?

Guilty men often go free. It is unfortunate, but it certainly is more in keeping with our liberal system of justice, and does less harm to that system, than the attitude that a defendant and a trial can and should be condemned by proxy.

Alexandria

William J. Smith

The Washington Post and Times Herald _____
The Washington Daily News _____
The Evening Star _____
New York Herald Tribune _____
New York Journal-American _____
New York Daily News _____
New York Post _____
The New York Times _____
The Baltimore Sun _____
The Worker _____
The New Leader _____
The Wall Street Journal _____
The National Observer _____
People's World _____
Date _____

OCT 20 1969

44-28681-1511

8/23/65

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

Gary Thomas Rowe is our informant who furnished the initial information leading to the identity of subjects responsible for shooting Mrs. Viola Liuzzo and is a material witness expected to testify in the retrial of Collie Leroy Wilkins now set for 10/18/65.

Information attached will be brought to the attention of the Department.

WH:gfs (5)

44-286815M

PAGE TWO

MO TWENTY-THREE R, AND BUREAU AND BIRMINGHAM WILL BE IMMEDIATELY
ADVISED OF ANY ADDITIONAL DEVELOPMENTS. P.

WA ...DLH

FBI WASH DC

CC: D. BOYD

10/21/65
GENERAL INVESTIGA^V DIVISION

This case concerns the retrial of Collie Leroy Wilkins, Jr., in Alabama State Court charged with the murder of Mrs. Viola Liuzzo on the night of 3/25/65. Wilkins was originally tried in May, 1965, on this charge which resulted in a hung jury. Present trial began 10/18/65. We are closely following this matter and you will be kept advised of developments. Leroy Moton is the young Negro boy accompanying Mrs. Liuzzo at the time of the shooting.

JWH/ral

44-28601-513

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

OCT 20 1965

FBI WASH DC

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. E. T. Tamm	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gandy	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. H. C. Quinn	
Mr. J. E. Tamm	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tel. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

FBI MOBILE

556 PM CST URGENT 10/20/65

VFP

TO DIRECTOR /44-28601/
FROM MOBILE /44-1245/

EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL. VIOLA GREGG LIUZZO, ET AL-VICTIMS.

Civil Rights Election Laws Office of Virginia

GR-EI. GO MOBILE.

RE TELETYPE INSTANT.

TRIAL AT HAYNEVILLE RESUMED AT ONE PM, THIS DATE.
STATE TROOPERS AND STATE INVESTIGATORS TESTIFIED TO FINDING
OF VEHICLE AND BODY AND LEROY MOTON TESTIFIED.

COURT RECESSED AT FIVE ZERO FIVE PM.

ATTORNEY GENERAL FLOWERS ADVISED COURT HE EXPECTED TO
REST STATE CASE BY TOMORROW AFTERNOON.

END

WA MRW

FBI WASH DC

X

EX 110

REC-69 44-3867-513

OCT 22 1965

GO NOV 1 1965

10/19/65

CODE

1 - Mr. Hines

RADIOGRAM

URGENT

TO SAC, MOBILE

FROM DIRECTOR, FBI

THREE MALE TEENAGERS; BARBARA BUTLER DASH VICTIM; CIVIL RIGHTS.
REURTEL TEN NINETEEN INSTANT. INSURE THAT LOCAL AND STATE AUTHORITIES ARE ADVISED OF THE INCIDENT INVOLVING VICTIM. ALSO ADVISE SECRET SERVICE AND LOCAL INTELLIGENCE GROUPS.

JWH/ral

(3)

NOTE: Barbara Butler, who attended trial of Collie Leroy Wilkins at Hayneville, Alabama, 10/18/65, alleged that while returning to Selma on the night of 10/18/65 in her Volkswagen was forced off of the highway by three white male teenagers who accused her of being an "outsider" and a "troublemaker" and verbally abused her. She also thought that one of the teenagers did something to her automobile as she could not get it started after the incident. She says she did not notify local authorities because she does not trust them.

REC-11

44-2860-514

19 OCT 20 1965

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Felt _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

VIA RADIOGRAM
OCT 18 1965
5:09 PM '65

NR	1
ENC	1
CC	1
APPROVED BY	<i>[Signature]</i>
TYPED BY	<i>[Signature]</i>
LOGGED BY	<i>[Signature]</i>

PLAIN TEXT

October 22, 1965

I - Mr. Hines

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: SAC, DETROIT

FROM: DIRECTOR, FBI

EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL., MRS. VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA, ET AL.
VICTIM, CR; EL.

RECGTEL TODAY.

IMMEDIATELY ADVISE MR. LIUZZO AND APPROPRIATE LOCAL
AUTHORITIES OF ANONYMOUS THREAT TO KILL LIUZZO RECEIVED AT
CHICAGO OFFICE TODAY.

RHA:pah

(3)

NOTE: This case concerns the retrial of Collie Leroy Wilkins, Jr., in State Court charged with murder of Mrs. Viola Liuzzo on the night of 3/25/65. Wilkins was originally tried in May, 1965, on this charge which resulted in a hung jury. Present retrial began 10/18/65. Retel sent to Bureau, Detroit and Mobile; advised Chicago Office received anonymous call from male individual stating, "Wilkins is innocent. If Wilkins gets convicted, I am going to get a bus tomorrow for Detroit and kill Liuzzo's husband." This teletype confirms instructions telephonically furnished Detroit Office by Extra Duty Supervisor R. H. Ash.

REC-43

44-28601516

X 109

10 OCT 22 1965

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
DeLoach _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
ty _____

53 OCT 22 1965

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

OCT 22 1965

TELETYPE

GENERAL INVESTIGAT DIVISION

This case concerns the retrial of Collie Leroy Wilkins, Jr. in State court charged with the murder of Mrs. Viola Liuzzo on the night of 3/25/65. Wilkins was originally tried in May, 1965, on this charge which resulted in a hung jury. Present trial began 10/18/65. Wilkins was found not guilty on 10/22/65, 1 hour and 47 minutes after the jury received the case.

WAF:mfd

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

OCT 22 1965

TELETYPE

FBI WASH DC

FBI MOBILE

6:01 PM CST 10/22/65 URGENT CCM

TO DIRECTOR (44-28601)
FROM MOBILE (44-1245)

EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL. VIOLA LIUZZO, ET AL. VICTIMS. CR-SC.

REMOTEL INSTANT DATE.

AT FOUR FORTYSEVEN P.M. CST INSTANT DATE THE JURY RETURNED
A VERDICT OF NOT GUILTY.

END

WA ACK AND HOLD

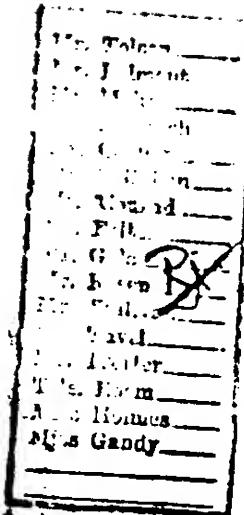
WA NHH

FBI WASH DC 10/22/1965

TU AND HOLD

REC-35
MR. BELMONT FOR THE DIRECTOR

44-28601
OCT 25 1965



10/22/65

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

This case concerns the retrial of Collie Leroy Wilkins, Jr., in State Court charged with the murder of Mrs. Viola Liuzzo on the night of 3/25/65. Wilkins was originally tried in May, 1965, on this charge which resulted in a hung jury. Present trial began 10/18/65.

Detroit Office telephonically advised to notify Mr. Liuzzo and appropriate local authorities of this threat.

RHA:pah

FBI CHICAGO

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

158 AM CDST URGENT 10-22-65 RAA 222965

TO: DIRECTOR, DETROIT, MOBILE TELETYPE
FROM: CHICAGO (44-773)

EUGENE THOMAS; ET AL; MRS. VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA, ET AL - VICTIM

DWD RWS
CR; EL. Election 1968

also known as

A18 ✓
Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bishop
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Gandy
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Miss Gandy

RE CG TEL TODAY.

AT ONE THIRTY AM TODAY CHICAGO OFFICE RECEIVED ANONYMOUS CALL FROM MALE INDIVIDUAL, NO DEFINITE ACCENT, NO BACKGROUND NOISE STATING "WILKINS IS INNOCENT. IF WILKINS GETS CONVICTED I'M GOING TO GET A BUS TOMORROW FOR DETROIT AND KILL LIUZZO'S HUSBAND". CALLER THEN HUNG UP. FOR INFO DETROIT SIMILIAR CALL RECEIVED, TEN TWENTY ONE LAST THREATENING TO KILL GARY ROWE. NO OTHER INFO FURNISHED BY CALLER.

END

WA...BJH

FBI WASH DC

REC-68

L4-2860-520

18 OCT 25 1965

MO...LPB

FB MOBILE

BE... CORR PLS LINE SIX WD.EIGHT - CORRECTION

LINE SIX WORD EIGHT SHOULD READ CONVICTED RP CONVICTED

FDB, [Signature]

RI

10. 7/65

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

This case concerns the retrial of Collie Leroy Wilkins, Jr., in State Court charged with the murder of Mrs. Viola Liuzzo on the night of 3/25/65. Wilkins was originally tried in May, 1965, on this charge which resulted in a hung jury. Present trial began 10/18/65.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

RHA:pah

OK for B7A

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
OCT 22 1965

TELETYPE

FBI CHICAGO

1237 AM CDST URGENT 10/22/65 AAA

TO: DIRECTOR AND MOBILE
FROM: CHICAGO (44-773)

EUGENE THOMAS; ET AL; MRS. VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA, ET AL - VICTIMS,
GR; EL. Bedon LMS

AT ELEVEN FIFTY FIVE PM CDT TEN TWENTY ONE LAST CHICAGO OFFICE
RECEIVED AN ANONYMOUS TELEPHONE CALL FROM MALE INDIVIDUAL, NO
DEFINITE ACCENT, NO BACKGROUND NOISE STATING "IF WILKINS IS
CONVICTED, I AM GOING TO KILL GARY ROWE, FBI INFORMER. FIVE
OTHER MEN ARE GOING TO ALABAMA WITH ME TONIGHT TO DO THE JOB".
CALLER THEN HUNG UP. NOTED NO PREVIOUS CHICAGO CALLS OR OTHER
INFORMATION RE THIS MATTER.

END

WA...COCC CORRECTION PLS LINE SIX FIFTH WORD SHOULD READ TO RPT
AND SIXTH LINE NINETH WORD SHOULD READ FBI RPT FBI

WA...LRC

FBI WASH DC

REC-68

16 OCT 25 1965

MO...LPB

FBI MOBILE

5 TO 6 OCT 28 1965

MURKIN FOR THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Felt
Mr. DeLoach
Miss Gandy

44-28601-52

10/22/65

GENERAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION

This case concerns the retrial of Collie Leroy Wilkins, Jr. in State Court charged with the murder of Mrs. Viola Liuzzo on the night of 3/25/65. Wilkins was originally tried in May, 1965, on this charge which resulted in a hung jury. Present trial began 10/18/65. We are closely following this matter and you will be kept advised of developments.

WAF:mfd

FBI WASH DC

**REPORT OF INVESTIGATION
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS SECTION**

FBI MOBILE

9:07 PM CST URGENT

10-21-65 MMA
1E1 ETYPE

FO DIRECTOR

FROM MOBILE /44-1245/

EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL; VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA, ET AL - VICTIMS

Ecclesiasticus

~~CR - EL~~

RETRIAL OF COLLIE LEROY WILKINS PROCEEDED TODAY WITHOUT *BY*
INCIDENT. TESTIMONY WAS HEARD FROM DR. PAUL SHOFFEIT, STATE
SPECIAL AGENTS TOXICOLOGIST AND SAS EVELAND, RILEY, LAHEY, GETTINGS, SHANAHAN
AND MAURICE ROW. ALL TESTIFIED AS IN PREVIOUS TRIAL. SA ROBB
TESTIFIED TO THE FACT THAT COL. AL LINGO, THEN DIRECTOR
OF PUBLIC SAFETY, HAD REQUESTED ASSISTANCE IN THE CASE.

SA MARION WILLIAMS IS THE ONLY REMAINING, WITNESS 887 FEB 1965
THE STATE AND IS TO TESTIFY IN A.M. TEN TWENTY TWO NEXT.

JUDGE THAGGARD COMMENTED CASE WILL PROBABLY GO TO JURY
LATE TOMORROW AFTERNOON.

END

WA BJH

~~FBI WASH DC~~

tu

MR. BENTWELL FOR THE DIRECTOR

0/23/65

GENERAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION

This matter concerns the retrial of Collie Leroy Wilkins, Jr. in State court charged with the murder of Mrs. Viola Liuzzo on the night of 3/25/65. Wilkins was originally tried in May, 1965, on this charge which resulted in a hung jury. Present trial began 10/18/65. Wilkins was found not guilty 1 hour and 47 minutes after the jury received the case on 10/22/65.

WAF:mfd

COPY SL

FBI WASH DC

DEPT. OF INVESTIGATION
DEPT. OF JUSTICE
FBI - MEMPHIS SECTION

OCT 22 1965

FBI MOBILE

4:25 PM CST

URGENT

TYPE
10-22-65

FLK

TO DIRECTOR

/44-28601/

FROM MOBILE

/44-1245/

3P

EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL. VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA ET AL. VICTIMS
OR - EL.

REBTEL TO BUREAU OCT. TWENTYTWO INSTANT.
TRIAL RECONVENED TODAY AT NINE AM CST IN
HAYNEVILLE, ALA. FIRST WITNESS TO TESTIFY WAS LABORATORY
EXPERT MARION WILLIAMS WHO TESTIFIED RELATIVE TO BALLISTICS
EXAMINATION AND EXAMINATION OF AUTOMOBILE. AFTER COMPLETION
OF WILLIAMS' TESTIMONY THE STATE RESTED CASE TEN FIFTEEN AM
CST. THE DEFENSE CALLED TEN WITNESSES WHICH WERE WITNESSES
TO DISCREDIT TESTIMONY OF EYEWITNESSES LEROY MOTON AND GARY
THOMAS ROWE.

AS OF ELEVENTHIRTY AM CST THE DEFENSE RESTED.
COURT RECONVENED ONE PM CST WITH OPENING SUMMATION BY
STATE ATTY JOE BECK GANT. GANT REVIEWED THE EVIDENCE
SUBMITTED IN THE CASE AND REFERRED TO THE KILLING AS:
END PAGE ONE

MR. BELMONT FOR THE DIRECTOR

REG-56
101
16 OCT 26 1965

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Tele. Room
Miss Gandy

PAGE TWO

"COLD BLOODED MURDER."

DEFENSE ATTY ARTHUR J. HANES POINTED OUT VARIOUS DISCREPANCIES IN TESTIMONY OF LEROY MOTON AND GARY THOMAS ROWE, WHICH HE STATED WERE THE STATE'S MAIN WITNESSES IN CASE. HE ALSO REFERRED TO ROWE AS A "JUDAS GOAT" AND CALLED DEFENDANT WILKINS THE "SCAPE GOAT" AND ENDED HIS SUMMATION BY REFERRING TO THE CASE AS THE "PARABLE OF TWO GOATS" AND CONTENDED THAT WILKINS WAS NOT GUILTY AND SHOULD VOTE FOR THE SCAPE GOAT.

ATTY GENL FOR STATE OF ALABAMA RICHMOND FLOWERS GAVE FINAL SUMMATION BY POINTING OUT ALSO THE CASE WAS A "COLD BLOODED MURDER." HE POINTED OUT THAT TESTIMONY GIVEN BY ROWE WAS WELL CORROBORATED BY CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE SUBMITTED AND ALSO THE WITNESSES FOR THE DEFENSE CORROBORATED ROWE'S TESTIMONY. FLOWERS BECAME EMOTIONAL AT THE END OF HIS SUMMATION AFTER TELLING JURY HISTORY OF HIS FAMILY AND OF GRANDFATHER WHO WAS A PRIVATE IN THE CONFEDERATE ARMY AND DESCRIBED A "TRUE VERDICT." HE STATED TO THE JURY THAT IF THEY DID NOT BRING BACK A VERDICT OF GUILTY THEY WOULD TEAR THE DEFINITION OF A TRUE VERDICT OUT OF THE ALA. CODE AND HE

NO PAGE TWO

MO 44-1245

PAGE THREE

EMPHASIZED HIS WORDS BY RIPPING PAGES OUT OF THE ALA CODE
AND SLAMMING THEM TO THE FLOOR.

CIRCUIT JUDGE T. WERTH THAGARD FINISHED HIS CHARGE TO
THE JURY AT APPROX. THREE PM GST AND, AT THE PRESENT TIME,
THE JURY IS DELIBERATING.

END

WA... NHH

FBI WASH DC

IUP

CC-MIL ROSEN

F B I

Date: 10/22/65

Mr. Belmont
 Mr. Mohr
 Mr. DeLoach
 Mr. Casper
 Mr. Callahan
 Mr. Conrad
 Mr. Felt
 Mr. Gale
 Mr. Higgins
 Mr. Sullivan
 Mr. Tavel
 Mr. Trotter
 Tele. Room
 Miss Holmes
 Miss Gandy

Transmit the following in _____
 (Type in plaintext or code)
 AIRTEL
 Via _____
 (Priority)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-28601)
 FROM: SAC, DETROIT (44-643)(RUC)
 EUGENE THOMAS, Et Al;
 Mrs. VIOLA LIUZZO, aka,
 Et Al - VICTIM
 CR - EL
 (OO: Mobile)

Re Bureau and Chicago teletypes today.

Mr. ANTHONY LIUZZO and Executive Lt. TIMOTHY HUTCHERSON, Special Investigations Bureau, PD, Detroit, Mich., were both advised this AM of anonymous threat to kill LIUZZO received at Chicago Office this date.

Mr. LIUZZO advised he has his own armed guard at his residence from 9:00 PM to 5:00 AM each evening and is also aware he is receiving protection from Detroit PD.

Lt. HUTCHERSON stated he would immediately notify the 14th Precinct, Detroit PD, of this additional data as this precinct is affording coverage with regard to LIUZZO's residence.

✓ 3 - Bureau
 ✓ 1 - Chicago (Info) (44-773)
 ✓ 2 - Mobile (44-1245)
 ✓ 1 - Detroit
 FJP:sal
 (7)

REC-56

44-38641-5-14

OCT 26 1965

Approved: _____ Sent: _____ M. Per: _____
 Special Agent in Charge

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Conrad

FROM : R. H. Jevons

SUBJECT: EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL.; VIOLA GREGG
LIUZZO, AKA.; LEROY JEROME MOTON,
VICTIMS; CR - EL

1 - Mr. Conrad
DATE: 10/25/65

1 - Office, Room 7133
1 - Mr. Williams
1 - Mr. Herndon

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
DeLoach _____
Carroll _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

This case concerns the murder of Mrs. Liuzzo, a civil rights worker, near Selma, Alabama, on the evening of 3/25/65.

In the first trial in this case which was held in May, 1965, the jury was unable to reach a verdict. In connection with the second trial which was held at Hayneville, Alabama, last week, Alabama Attorney General Richmond Flowers assisted by Mr. Joe Gant presented the State's case before Judge T. Werth Thagard. The defendant Wilkins was represented by Mr. Arthur Hanes, a former Special Agent. SA Marion E. Williams testified concerning his examination of the automobile in which the victim was killed and to the results of Laboratory examinations of the bullets, bullet fragments, cartridge cases and gun recovered in connection with this investigation.

The State rested following SA Williams' testimony on the morning of 10/22/65. The case went to the jury that afternoon. After approximately 1 hour and 45 minutes of deliberation, the jury found the defendant not guilty.

ACTION:

For information.

44-28601

1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. M. A. Jones, Room 4264

REC-48

44-28601-525

OCT 27 1965

MEW:bsm

6 NOV 2 1965

(7)

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INTT

10/25/65

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

Alabama Attorney General Richmond Flowers, mentioned in attached, handled the prosecution of the retrial of Collie Leroy Wilkins, Jr., in State Court, who was charged with the murder of Mrs. Viola Liuzzo on the night of 3/25/65. Wilkins was acquitted on 10/22/65.

Civil Rights Division being advised.

ICS:pah

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

OCT 22 1965

TELETYPE

FBI WASH-DC

FBI MOBILE

7:59 PM CST 10/23/65 URGENT CCM
TO DIRECTOR (44-28601)
FROM MOBILE (44-1245)

EUGENE THOMAS. ET AL. VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA ET AL VICTIMS. N.R. - E.T.

ON THIS DATE ALABAMA ATTORNEY GENERAL RICHMOND FLOWERS TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED SA SPENCER H. ROBB AND ADVISED THAT DURING AFTERNOON OF THIS DATE WHILE ATTENDING FOOTBALL GAME AT AUBURN, ALA., AN UNIDENTIFIED MALE TELEPHONED HIS HOME AND SPOKE TO THE MAID, ASKED IF FLOWERS AND WIFE WERE HOME AND WHEN MAID ADVISED THEY WERE AT BALL GAME MAN SAID "THIS WOULD BE A GOOD TIME TO BOMB THE HOUSE, YOU HAD BETTER GET OUT OF THERE". FLOWERS ADVISED THAT HE HAS NOTIFIED THE MONTGOMERY, ALA., PD OF ABOVE AND WANTED THE FBI TO BE COGNIZANT OF MATTER.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE AND U. S. SECRET SERVICE BEING ADVISED.

L.H.M. FOLLOWS.

REG 74 44-28601-5P7

BUREAU WILL BE ADVISED OF ANY DEVELOPMENTS.

15 OCT 27 1965

END

WA ACK AND HOLD

WA JRL

FBI WASH-DC

REV 2 165

Mr. Tolson	<i>CV</i>
Mr. Belmont	<i>gag</i>
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

This matter concerns the trial of Collie
Roy Wilkens on charges of shooting Viola
Luzzo on 3/25/65 which is now in progress in
Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

VH/nkr

RJG

B7A

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont *all rec*

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL;
VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA, ET AL - VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS - ELECTION LAWS

DATE: October 18, 1965

- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Callahan
- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. McGowan
- 1 - Mr. Hines

Tolson ✓
Belmont ✓
Mohr ✓
DeLoach ✓
Casper ✓
Callahan ✓
Costello ✓
Felt ✓
Gale ✓
Rosen ✓
Sullivan ✓
Tavel ✓
Trotter ✓
Tele. Room ✓
Holmes ✓
Gandy ✓

In connection with the trial of Collie Leroy Wilkins, for the murder of Mrs. Viola Liuzzo by the State of Alabama which began today in Circuit Court, Hayneville, Alabama, Gary Thomas Rowe, Jr., our informant, is expected to be a major witness. The state prosecutor has requested that an employee of our Voucher Unit appear and testify as to expenditures made to Rowe and in his behalf from the time he became an FBI informant to date. The same testimony was requested and authorized in the initial trial of Wilkins in May, 1965.

*(AS OF
10-20-65. This trial is set to stand idle pending hearing on a petition*

OBSERVATIONS:



87A

ENCLOSURE
Enclosure

JWH/ral

70 OCT 29 1965
(9)

REC-11

#4-28601-529/B7A
31 OCT 26 1965

CONTINUED - OVER

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL;

ACTION:

If approved, our Voucher Unit employee will be instructed to appear and testify to these miscellaneous expenses as above stated.

ADDENDUM: JPM:DW 10/20/65

Maurice Row, Supervisor of the Voucher Unit of the Administrative Division, will testify in this case. Mr. Row's section has custody of all of the documents as well as the accounts concerning payments to informants. He has testified previously and is well qualified to handle this assignment. He has already departed for Hayneville, Alabama.